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### Life courses of immigrants and their descendants

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About the author





Tom Kleinepier was born in Vlissingen (the Netherlands) on October 10, 1986. In September 2011, he obtained a Master's degree in Sociology (*cum laude*) at Tilburg University. He received the Dutch Sociological Association (NSV) biennial thesis award (2010/2011) for his Master thesis entitled "*Age at immigration and second language proficiency among immigrants in the Netherlands: Maturation constraints or life-course trajectories?*". As of December 2011, he started working as a PhD researcher at the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) on the ERC Starting Grant project "Families of migrant origin – a life course perspective" (FaMiLife) awarded to prof. dr. Helga de Valk. During his PhD, Tom also worked as an external researcher at Statistics Netherlands with the Dutch population register data. His PhD dissertation focused primarily on ethnic differences in family behavior among young adults from migrant and Dutch families in the Netherlands, using quantitative research methods such as event history and sequence analysis. He has presented his research findings at various national and international conferences, including among others the Dutch Demography Day, the European Population Conference, and the Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Currently, Tom works as a postdoctoral researcher at Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, OTB – Research for the Built Environment. Here, his research is part of the ERC-funded project "Socio-spatial inequality, deprived neighbourhoods, and neighbourhood effects" (DEPRIVEDHOODS) led by the principal investigator prof. dr. Maarten van Ham.

Immigrants and their descendants constitute a large and growing share of the young adult population in Europe, making them key drivers of population dynamics and growth. It is therefore most relevant to increase our knowledge on how life courses of young adults with an immigrant background unfold and what factors are important here. Yet, previous research on demographic family behavior of young adults in Europe has been largely confined to native populations. Throughout four empirical studies, this PhD dissertation focuses on family life dynamics among young adults from migrant and native Dutch families. The study covers a relatively recent immigrant population (viz. Polish immigrants), as well as the second generation of more established immigrant groups in the Netherlands (viz. Turks, Moroccans, Surinamese, and Antilleans). Comparisons are made within and between ethnic origin groups. The analyses performed are based on quantitative research methods, such as event history and sequence analysis.

Tom Kleinepier obtained his Master's degree (*cum laude*) in Sociology at Tilburg University. The present study was conducted at the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI/KNAW/RUG) as part of the ERC-funded project "Families of migrant origin: a life course perspective".

